

REMARKS

Examiner rejected Claim 1-2, 5-6, 9-10, and 13-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Robin et al. Robin et al. did not predate the filing of Applicant's patent application as identified above by more than one year. Therefore, a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is improper. If Examiner meant to reject the above-identified claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(a), Applicants submit a affidavit under 37 CFR §1.131 waiving behind Robin et al.

Examiner rejected Claim 3-4, 7-8, and 11-12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Robin et al. in light of U.S. Pat. No. 5893084 (Morgan et al.). In light of Applicants' affidavit under 37 CFR §1.131 waiving behind Robin et al. Applicants suggest that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is no longer valid.

Reconsideration of the application in light of the affidavit is requested. Allowance of Claims 1-14 is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert D. Morelli
Registration No. 37,398
(301) 688-0287